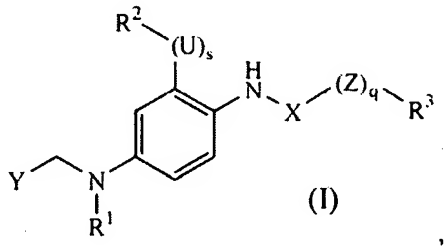
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A substituted p-diaminobenzene derivative of the general formula I



(I)

wherein:

s is 0 or 1;

U is O, S, SO_2, $SONR^{11}$, or $CONR^{11}$; wherein:

R^{11} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, or C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl; or

R^2 and R^{11} taken together with the nitrogen atom form a 5-8 membered saturated or unsaturated ring, which optionally contains 1, 2 or 3 further heteroatoms;

q is 0 or 1;

X is CO or SO_2; with the proviso that q is 0 when X is SO_2;

Z is O or S;

R^1 is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, acyl, hydroxy-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, hydroxy-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, hydroxy-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, halo-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl or cyano-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl;

R^2 is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, Ar, Ar-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, Ar-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, Ar-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, acyl, hydroxy-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, hydroxy-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, hydroxy-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halogen, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, halo-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano, cyano-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, cyano-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, $NR^{10}R^{10'}$-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, $NR^{10}R^{10'}$-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl or $NR^{10}R^{10'}$-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl; wherein:

R^{10} and $R^{10'}$ are each independently hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, hydroxy-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, hydroxy-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, hydroxy-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, halo-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl or cyano-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl; or

R^{10} and $R^{10'}$ taken together with the nitrogen atom form a 5-8 membered saturated or unsaturated ring, which optionally contains 1, 2 or 3 further heteroatoms; with the proviso that:

when R^2 is halogen or cyano, then s is 0; and

when s is 1 and R^2 is a hydrogen atom or acyl, then U is O or S;

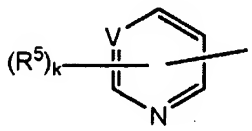
R^3 is C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, heterocycloalk(en)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl-heterocycloalk(en)yl, heterocycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yloxy-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy-heterocycloalk(en)yl, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy-carbonyl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yloxy-carbonyl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy-carbonyl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, hydroxy-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, hydroxy-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, hydroxy-heterocycloalk(en)yl, hydroxy-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, hydroxy-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, hydroxy-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl-heterocycloalk(en)yl, ~~halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl,~~ halo-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, halo-heterocycloalk(en)yl, halo-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl-heterocycloalk(en)yl, cyano-C_{1-6}-

alk(en/yn)yl, cyano-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, cyano-heterocycloalk(en)yl, cyano-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, cyano-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl-heterocycloalk(en)yl, acyl-C_{1-6}-alk (en/yn)yl, acyl-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, acyl-heterocycloalk(en)yl, acyl-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, acyl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, acyl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl-heterocycloalk(en)yl, $NR^{12}R^{12'}$, optionally substituted $NR^{12}R^{12'}$-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, optionally substituted $NR^{12}R^{12'}$-C_{3-8}-alk(en/yn)yl, or optionally substituted $NR^{12}R^{12'}$-C_{3-8}-alk(en/yn)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl; wherein:

R^{12} and $R^{12'}$ are each independently hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, Ar, Ar-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, Ar-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, Ar-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, Ar-heterocycloalk(en)yl, Ar-oxy-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, Ar-oxy-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, Ar-oxy-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, Ar-oxy-heterocycloalk(en)yl, hydroxy-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, hydroxy-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, hydroxy-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, halo-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano -C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, or cyano-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl; or

R^{12} and $R^{12'}$ taken together with the nitrogen atom form a 5-8 membered saturated or unsaturated ring, which optionally contains 1, 2 or 3 further heteroatoms; with the proviso that when R^3 is $NR^{12}R^{12'}$ then q is 0; and

Y is a group of formula XXXXI:



XXXXI

wherein:

"|" represents a bond attaching the group represented by Y to the carbon atom;

V is C or CH; and

k is 0, 1, 2 or 3; and

each R^5 is independently C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk (en)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, Ar, Ar-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, Ar-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, Ar-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, Ar-oxy, Ar-oxy-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, Ar-oxy-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl-heterocycloalk(en)yl, Ar-oxy-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, acyl, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yloxy, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy-carbonyl, halogen, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, halo-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, -CO-$NR^6R^{6'}$, cyano, cyano-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, cyano-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, cyano-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, $NR^7R^{7'}$, S-R^8 or SO_2R^8; or

two adjacent R^5 groups taken together with the aromatic group form a 5-8 membered ring, which optionally contains one or two heteroatoms; wherein:

R^6 and $R^{6'}$ are each independently hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl or Ar;

R^7 and $R^{7'}$ are each independently hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, Ar, heterocycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, heterocycloalk(en)yl-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, heterocycloalk(en)yl-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, heterocycloalk(en)yl-Ar or acyl; or

R^7 and $R^{7'}$ taken together with the nitrogen atom form a 5-8 membered saturated or unsaturated ring which optionally contains 1, 2 or 3 further heteroatoms; and

R^8 is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, Ar or -$NR^9R^{9'}$; wherein:

R^9 and $R^{9'}$ are each independently hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl or C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl;

or salts thereof.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl or a hydrogen atom.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein s is 0.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein s is 1.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 4, wherein U is an oxygen atom.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^2 is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, Ar, Ar-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halogen, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl or cyano; with the provisos that when R^2 is halogen or cyano, then s is 0; and when s is 1 and R^2 is a hydrogen atom, then U is O or S.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein Z is an oxygen atom.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein Z is a sulfur atom.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein q is 0.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein q is 1.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein X is CO.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^3 is C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl, C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, heterocycloalk(en)yl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, heterocycloalk(en)yl, Ar, Ar-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, Ar-oxy-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, Ar-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy-carbonyl-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, $NR^{12}R^{12'}$, optionally substituted $NR^{12}R^{12'}$-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, or optionally substituted $NR^{12}R^{12'}$-C_{3-8}-cycloalk(en)yl.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 12, wherein R^{12} and $R^{12'}$ are each independently hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl or Ar.

Claims 14-20 (cancelled).

Claim 21 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein V is CH.

Claims 22-24 (cancelled).

Claim 25 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 1, wherein each R^5 is independently C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl-heterocycloalk(en)yl, Ar, C_{1-6}-

alk(en/yn)yloxy, Ar-oxy, C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yloxy-carbonyl, halogen, halo-C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl, $NR^7R^{7'}$, S-R^8 or SO_2R^8; or two adjacent R^5 groups taken together with the aromatic group form a 5-8 membered ring, which optionally contains one or two heteroatoms.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 25, wherein both R^7 and $R^{7'}$ are C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 25, wherein R^8 is C_{1-6}-alk(en/yn)yl or Ar.

Claim 28 (previously presented) The compound according to claim 1, wherein the compound is:

2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-N-{2-methyl-4-[(6-p-tolyloxypyridin-3-ylmethyl)-amino]-phenyl}-acetamide;

2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-N-{2-methyl-4-[(6-trifluoromethylpyridin-3-ylmethyl)-amino]-phenyl}-acetamide;

3,3-Dimethyl-N-{2-methyl-4-[(6-p-tolyloxypyridin-3-ylmethyl)-amino]-phenyl}-butyramide;

3,3-Dimethyl-N-{2-methyl-4-[(6-trifluoromethylpyridin-3-ylmethyl)-amino]-phenyl}-butyramide;

N-(4-{[6-(4-Cyanophenoxy)-pyridin-3-ylmethyl]-amino}-2-methylphenyl)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-acetamide;

N-{4-[(6-Chloropyridin-3-ylmethyl)-amino]-2-methylphenyl}-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-acetamide; or

2,2-Dimethyl-N-{2-methyl-4-[(6-phenoxypyridin-3-ylmethyl)-amino]-phenyl}-proprionamide;

or a salt thereof.

Claim 29 (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers or diluents and a compound according to claim 1.

Claims 30-45 (cancelled).